

**TESTIMONY RE: RAISED BILL 5130 THE CHILD SAFE PRODUCTS ACT**  
**Committee on Environment**  
**March 1, 2010**

**TO:** Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the Environment  
Committee  
**FROM:** Mary Ellen Hobson, RN, MS

My name is Mary Ellen Hobson. I live in Southington. I am a nurse and have worked in Connecticut as a nurse in various roles since 1977. I wish I could speak to you today in person but my nursing responsibilities preclude that. I have spent thirty two years as a nurse serving the citizens of Connecticut. I am concerned. I have a few questions,

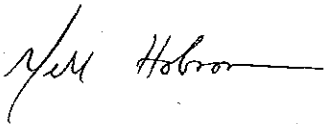
Why is my friend Peter dying of prostate cancer at 55 years old? Why have seven of my friends had breast cancer since 2005? Why did one die from it? Why does my friend Rosemary struggle to provide care and education to her son with ADHD? Why do my friend Steven and his wife have to spend 25% of their income each year for the care of their autistic son? Why do I see so many more patients with tumors like breast cancer, testicular cancer, diabetes, asthma and Parkinson's disease?

Is it because chemicals from the things we use everyday have caused and or contributed to these cancers and diseases? The answer is quite possibly yes!

Does the make up we use every day, the cleaning products we use so frequently, the pesticides we spray on our crops or the fertilizer we spread on our lawns negatively affect our health more than we know? How do we know the toxic effects of the more than 80,000 chemicals produced and used in the US when only 200 chemicals have been tested since the initiation of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) on 1976.

The citizens of Connecticut need you to pass HB 5130. We need to create a plan to add at least a few high concern chemicals to the State's and DEP's priority chemical list each year. We need to phase out the most dangerous chemical like cadmium. We need to protect ourselves, our children and the future of our State.

Please review, seriously consider and pass HB 5130. Help to eliminate the possible poisons that affect Connecticut's health, economy, and environment. Your small simple action on HB 5130 can make a huge difference. The citizens of Connecticut are counting on you! Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.



Mary Ellen Hobson  
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